

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 07028 171225Z

44

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ABF-01 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 HEW-02 HUD-01 INR-07

INT-05 LOC-01 NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSF-01 OMB-01 SMI-01

TRSE-00 FS-01 /050 W

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P 171101Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5222

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TPHY OSCI EG

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FY 1976 SPECIAL FOREIGN

CURRENCY PROGRAM FOR SCIENCE AGENCIES

REF: A. STATE A-4240 B. STATE 150585

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED REF AIRGRAM ON JULY 9. WE BELIVE THAT IT IS NECESSARY THAT AMBASSADOR APPROACH FOREIGN MINISTRY MINISTER OF STATE MOHAMED RIAD WITH INITIAL PRESENTATION OF FY 76 RESEARCH GRANT PACKAGE. UNFORTUNATELY MOHAMED RIAD DEPARTED CIAOR JULY 11 FOR ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTER CONFERENCE BEFORE WE COULD REACH HIM AND AMBASSADOR EILTS DEPARTED FOR CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON JULY 15 PRIOR TO MINSTATE RIAD'S RETURN. IN INTERIM, DEPT SHOULD BE AWAREN AS IN THE CASE OF SMITHSONIAN GRANT ENTITLED "PREHISTORIC STUDIES OF THE SIWA OASIS", WE ARE PREPARED TO RAISE PROJECTS, INDIVIDUALLY WHICH MIGHT BE HARMED BY CURRENT DELAY IN SEEKING APPROVAL.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO GET FOREIGN MINISTRY TO AGREE TO QUICK BLANKET CLEARANCE FOR FY 76 PROGRAM SUCH AS WE RECEIVED FOR FY 75 PROGRAM INDEED, RECENT FY 75 GRANTS WHICH HAVE BEEN SENT TO US FOR SIGNING HAVE RUN AGROUND IN
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 07028 171225Z

FOREIGN MINISTRY. DESPITE BLANKET CLEARANCE, FOREIGN MINISTRY

IS REQUIRING FURTHER INDIVIDUAL CLEARANCE, SOMETIMES FROM INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS, FOR PROJECTS COMING TO ITS ATTENTION. WE ANTICIPATE THAT REQUEST FOR BLANKET CLEARANCE WILL RESULT IN LENGTHY DELAY OF ENTIRE PROGRAM. IT IS OUR INTENTION, THEREFORE, TO SEEK FROM MINSTATE RIAD (A) APPROVAL FOR THOSE PROJECTS WHICH ARE NOW READY FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND (B) CONSENT THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON OTHER PROJECTS CAN CONTINUE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR FINAL APPROVAL. IN DOING SO WE WILL PRESENT HIM WITH THE ENTIRE PACKAGE AS ATTACHED TO A-4240. WE WOULD ALSO HOPE TO PRESENT HIM WITH SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF PROJECTS READY TO BE SIGNED FOR SPECIFIC APPROVAL. WE REQUEST THEREFORE THAT DEPT ASCERTAIN FROM AGENCIES INVOLVED TITLES OF PROJECTS WHICH ARE READY FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND TRANSMIT THEM TO US TELEGRAPHICALLY SO THAT WE MAY PRESENT THEM TO RIAD WHEN AMBASSADOR EILTS AND HE MEET. THEREAFTER THE AGENCIES CONCERNED SHOULD INFORM US THROUGH THE DEPT WHEN PROJECTS ARE READY TO BE PRESENTED FOR FINAL APPROVAL.

3. COMMENT: IT IS INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT EGYPTIAN BUREAUCRATIC POLITICS IN THE FORM OF COMPETITION BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND OTHER SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE RIGHT TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS WILL BE A PROBLEM FOR US IN FUTURE GRANT PROGRAMS.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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